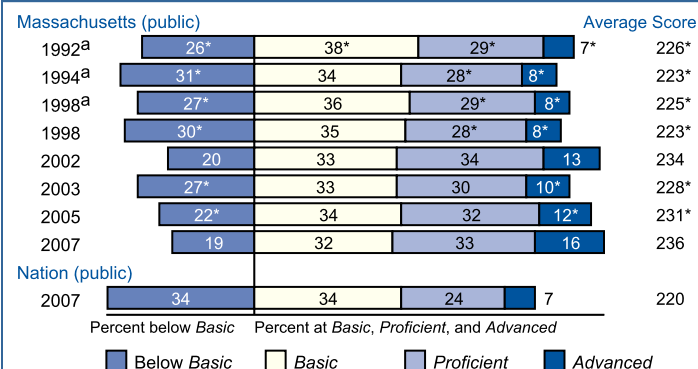


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in two content areas in grade 4: reading for literary experience and to gain information. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

### Overall Reading Results for Massachusetts

- In 2007, the average scale score for fourth-grade students in Massachusetts was 236. This was higher than their average score in 2005 (231) and was higher than their average score in 1992 (226).<sup>1</sup>
- Massachusetts' average score (236) in 2007 was higher than that of the nation's public schools (220).
- Of the 52 states and other jurisdictions that participated in the 2007 fourth-grade assessment, students' average scale score in Massachusetts was higher than those in 51 jurisdictions..<sup>2</sup>
- The percentage of students in Massachusetts who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 49 percent in 2007. This percentage was greater than that in 2005 (44 percent) and was greater than that in 1992 (36 percent).
- The percentage of students in Massachusetts who performed at or above the NAEP *Basic* level was 81 percent in 2007. This percentage was greater than that in 2005 (78 percent) and was greater than that in 1992 (74 percent).

### Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels and Average Score



<sup>a</sup> Accommodations were not permitted for this assessment.

NOTE: The NAEP grade 4 reading achievement levels correspond to the following scale points: Below Basic, 207 or lower; Basic, 208–237; Proficient, 238–267; Advanced, 268 or above.

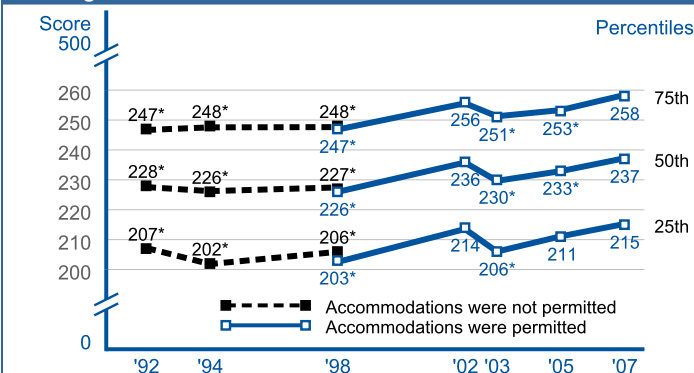
### Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Massachusetts: 2007

Reporting groups	Percent of students	Average score	Percent below Basic	Percent of students at or above Basic	Percent of students at or above Proficient	Percent Advanced
Male	50	233 ↑	21	79	46	14
Female	50	238 ↑	17	83	52 ↑	18 ↑
White	75	241 ↑	13	87	56	19
Black	8	211	43	57	19	2
Hispanic	10	209	45	55	18	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	241	13	87	58	20
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Eligible for National School Lunch Program	26	214 ↑	40	60	22	4
Not eligible for National School Lunch Program	73	243 ↑	11	89	59 ↑	20 ↑

### Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2007, male students in Massachusetts had an average score that was lower than that of female students by 5 points. In 1992, there was no significant difference between the average score of male and female students.
- In 2007, Black students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 31 points. In 1992, the average score for Black students was lower than that of White students by 26 points.
- In 2007, Hispanic students had an average score that was lower than that of White students by 32 points. In 1992, the average score for Hispanic students was lower than that of White students by 34 points.
- In 2007, students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch, a proxy for poverty, had an average score that was lower than that of students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch by 29 points. In 1998, the average score for students who were eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch was lower than the score of those not eligible by 28 points.
- In 2007, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 43 points. In 1992, the score gap between students at the 75th percentile and students at the 25th percentile was 39 points.

### Reading Scores at Selected Percentiles



NOTE: Scores at selected percentiles on the NAEP reading scale indicate how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels performed.

# Rounds to zero.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

\* Significantly different from 2007.

↑ Significantly higher than 2005. ↓ Significantly lower than 2005.

<sup>1</sup> Comparisons (higher/lower/narrower/wider/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages. Comparisons across jurisdictions and comparisons with the nation or within a jurisdiction across years may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities (SD) and English language learners (ELL). The exclusion rates for SD and ELL in Massachusetts were 5 percent and 2 percent in 2007, respectively. For more information on NAEP significance testing see <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/reading/interpret-results.asp#statistical>.

<sup>2</sup> "Jurisdictions" refers to states and the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding and because the "Information not available" category for the National School Lunch Program, which provides free and reduced-price lunches, and the "Unclassified" category for race/ethnicity are not displayed. Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), various years, 1992–2007 Reading Assessments.